

## Message Text

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ACTION EA-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-05 H-01 INR-07  
L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15  
USIA-06 /059 W  
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R 120833Z OCT 77  
FM AMEMBASSY TOKYO  
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1889  
INFO CINCPAC HONOLULU  
COMUSJAPAN YOKOTA

C O N F I D E N T I A L TOKYO 15771

CINCPAC ALSO FOR POLAD

E.O. 11652: GDS  
TAGS: MARR, JA  
SUBJECT: PROPOSAL TO HOLD SECURITY SUBCOMMITTEE (SSC) MEETING

SUMMARY. FONOFF HAS PROPOSED CONVENING OF 10TH SSC IN LATE  
NOVEMBER OR EARLY DECEMBER, PREFERABLY DECEMBER 5 OR 6 IN  
HAWAII. DEPARTMENT'S VIEWS SOLICITED. END SUMMARY.

1. YUKIO SATO, CHIEF, SECURITY DIVISION, MOFA, SAID JDA AND MOFA  
WISHED TO PROPOSE SECURITY SUBCOMMITTEE (SSC) MEETING TO TAKE  
PLACE IN LATE NOVEMBER OR EARLY DECEMBER IN HAWAII -- PREFERRED  
DATES WOULD BE DECEMBER 5-6. SATO SAID THAT SSC HAD NOT BEEN  
HELD SINCE 1974 AND THAT MANY THINGS HAD CHANGED SINCE THEN --  
END OF VIETNAM WAR, NEW US AND JAPANESE ADMINISTRATIONS -- WHICH  
WOULD MAKE SSC MEETING USEFUL BOTH FOR SUBSTANTIVE REASONS AND  
TO ENABLE KEY OFFICIALS CONCERNED WITH JAPANESE SECURITY AFFAIRS  
TO ENGAGE DIRECTLY IN DIALOGUE WITH EACH OTHER. HE NOTED THAT IF  
SSC MEETING COULD NOT BE HELD THIS YEAR, IT WOULD BE IMPOSSIBLE  
TO HOLD ONE BEFORE CONCLUSION OF NEXT YEAR'S REGULAR DIET SESSION.

2. SATO SAID THAT FONOFF TENTATIVE THINKING WAS TO INCLUDE  
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DEP VICE MINISTER TAKASHIMA, AMERICAN AFFAIRS BUREAU DIRECTOR  
GENERAL NAKAJIMA AND SATO. JDA WOULD TENTATIVELY BE REPRESENTED  
BY VICE MINISTER MARUYAMA, DEFENSE DIVISION DIRECTOR NISHIHIRO,  
COUNSELLOR OHTSUKA, AND TWO OFFICERS FROM JOINT STAFF OFFICE.

3. HE SUGGESTED ALLOTING HALF-DAY TO EACH OF FOLLOWING AGENDA  
TOPICS:

A. SOVIET MILITARY POSTURE AND NAVAL PRESENCE, WITH EMPHASIS ON EAST ASIA (PRESENTED BY RESPECTIVE SERVICES). WE WOULD SUGGEST THAT US PRESENTATION INCLUDE REVIEW OF NAVAL BALANCE IN PACIFIC AND INDIAN OCEAN.

B. US AND JAPANESE DEFENSE PLANNING IN THE PACIFIC (PRESENTED BY DOD AND JDA REPRESENTATIVES). SAT SAID JAPANESE HAD IN MIND DEFENSE MINISTER MIHARA'S PROMISE IN WASHINGTON TO BRING US UP TO DATE ON BUDGET PROSPECTS FOLLOWING CURRENT EXTRAORDINARY DIET SESSION, AS WELL AS INFORMAL PRESENTATION ON LONG-TERM DEFENSE PLANS GOING BEYOND CURRENT WHITE PAPER.

C. DOMESTIC SITUATION AS IT AFFECTS NATIONAL SECURITY (PRESENTED BY FONOFF).

4. SAT SAID JAPANESE SIDE WAS FLEXIBLE IN REGARD TO AGENDA AND WOULD WELCOME OUR IDEAS. WE WOULD SUGGEST FOLDING ITEM C INTO B AND ADDING US ASSESSMENT OF US-SOVIET STRATEGIC BALANCE. MOST IMPORTANT THING, WE BELIEVE, IS TO HAVE DISCUSSION FOCUS ON MEANINGFUL ISSUES GOING BEYOND THOSE SUBJECTS ON WHICH WE CURRENTLY EXCHANGE VIEWS IN OTHER BODIES.

5. SATO SAID HE SUGGESTED HAWAII BECAUSE IT WAS CONVENIENT FOR BOTH SIDES AND EXPRESSED HOPE THAT PARTICIPANTS MIGHT BE HOUSED IN SAME HOTEL TO ALLOW INFORMAL DISCUSSION WHICH HE AND  
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COLLEAGUES FOUND TO BE SO VALUABLE IN PREVIOUS US-JAPAN CONFERENCES.

6. EMB STRONGLY SUPPORTS IDEA OF CONVENING SSC IN TIME FRAM SUGGESTED BY SATO AND WOULD APPRECIATE WASHINGTON CONCURRENCE AND TENTATIVE LIST OF ATTENDEES.  
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## Message Attributes

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**Subject:** PROPOSAL TO HOLD SECURITY SUBCOMMITTEE (SSC) MEETING SUMMARY. FONOFF HAS PROPOSED CONVENING OF 10TH SSC IN LATE NOVEMBER OR EARLY DECEMBER, PREFERABLY DECEMBER 5  
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